Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A constraining band, comprising:

a band, said band having a length and a width and comprising at least one network of fiber having a tenacity of at least about 10 g/d and a tensile modulus of at least about 200 g/d, at least about 50 weight percent of said fiber comprising substantially continuous lengths of fiber along the length of said band, said band being interrupted across the length thereof to create two ends, each of said ends comprising at least one integral loop; and

a pin, said pin connecting the loops of said two ends to one another, wherein said pin comprises a flexible material inserted through the loops to close the band, said flexible material being selected from the group consisting of rope; roving; unitape; shield; braid, belt; fabric; and combinations thereof.

2 (original). The constraining band of claim 1 wherein the loops are coaxially aligned for connection.

3 (canceled).

4 (canceled).

5 (canceled).

6 (currently amended). The constraining band of claim 1 wherein ~~the pin comprises a flexible material inserted through the loops to close the band,~~ said flexible material ~~comprising~~ comprises fiber selected from the group consisting of extended chain polyolefin fibers, aramid fibers, polybenzoxazole fibers, polybenzothiazole fibers, polyvinyl alcohol fibers, polyacrylonitrile fibers, liquid copolyester fibers, polyamide fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and mixtures thereof.

7 (canceled).

8 (original). The constraining band of claim 1 wherein substantially all of the fibrous material in said loops comprises continuous lengths of fiber aligned in parallel and in the hoop direction of said loops.

9 (original). The constraining band of claim 1 wherein the network of fibers is in a resin matrix.

10. (original). The constraining band of claim 9 wherein substantially all of the fibrous material in said loops comprises continuous lengths of fiber aligned in parallel and in the hoop direction of said loops.

11 (original). The constraining band of claim 10 wherein all of the substantially continuous lengths of fiber in the band are included in the loops of each end.

12. (original). The constraining band of claim 1 wherein the network of fibers comprises fiber selected from the group consisting of extended chain polyolefin fibers, aramid fibers, polybenzoxazole fibers, polybenzothiazole fibers, polyvinyl alcohol fibers, polyacrylonitrile fibers, liquid copolyester fibers, polyamide fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and mixtures thereof.

13 (canceled).

14 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~13~~ further comprising blast mitigating material located within the container.

15 (original). The container assembly of claim 14 wherein the blast mitigating material comprises an aqueous foam.

16 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~13~~ further comprising a second band of fibrous material encircling the container to cover the interrupted band where the loops are connected to one another.

17 (canceled).

18 (canceled).

19 (canceled).

20 (canceled).

21 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~17~~ wherein the loops are coaxially aligned for connection.

22 (canceled).

23 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~17~~ wherein ~~the pin comprises a flexible material inserted through the loops to close the band,~~ said flexible material ~~comprising~~ comprises fiber selected from the group consisting of extended chain polyolefin fibers, aramid fibers, polybenzoxazole fibers, polybenzothiazole fibers, polyvinyl alcohol fibers, polyacrylonitrile fibers, liquid copolyester fibers, polyamide fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and mixtures thereof.

24 (canceled).

25 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~17~~ wherein substantially all of the fiber in said loops comprises continuous lengths of fiber aligned in parallel and in the hoop direction of said loops.

26 (currently amended). The container assembly of claim 53 ~~17~~ wherein the network of fibers is in a resin matrix.

27 (original). The container assembly of claim 26 wherein a portion of said band encircling the container is integral with the container.

28 (original). The container assembly of claim 27 wherein substantially all of the fibrous material in said loops comprises continuous lengths of fiber aligned in parallel and in the hoop direction of said loops.

29 (original). The container assembly of claim 28 wherein all of the substantially continuous lengths of fiber in the band are included in the loops of each end.

30 (original). The container assembly of claim 26 wherein the band is interrupted adjacent to said access opening.

31 – 52 (canceled).

53 (new). A container assembly, comprising a constraining band in combination with a container, said container having at least one access opening, said constraining band encircling the container to make the container blast resistant, said constraining band covering said access opening,

said band having a length and a width and comprising at least one network of fiber having a tenacity of at least about 10 g/d and a tensile modulus of at least about 200 g/d, at least about 50 weight percent of said fiber comprising substantially continuous

lengths of fiber along the length of said band, said band being interrupted across the length thereof to create two ends, each of said ends comprising at least one integral loop; and

a pin, said pin connecting the loops of said two ends to one another, wherein the pin comprises a flexible material inserted through the loops to close the band, said flexible material being selected from the group consisting of rope; roving; unitape; shield; braid, belt; fabric; and combinations thereof.